

restenosis. It would further be desirable to provide such devices and methods which would reduce and/or further eliminate drug washout and potentially provide minimal to no hindrance to endothelialization of the vessel wall. At least some of these objectives will be met by the devices and methods of the present invention described hereinafter.

5           2.     Description of the Background Art

A full description of an exemplary luminal prosthesis for use in the present invention is described in co-pending application No. 09/565,560 filed May 4, 2000, the full disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference. Method and apparatus for releasing active substances from implantable and other devices are described in U.S. Patent Nos.

10   6,096,070; 5,824,049; 5,624,411; 5,609,629; 5,569,463; 5,447,724; and 5,464,650. The use of stents for drug delivery within the vasculature are described in PCT Publication No. WO 01/01957 and U.S. Patent Nos. 6,099,561; 6,071,305; 6,063,101; 5,997,468; 5,980,551; 5,980,566; 5,972,027; 5,968,092; 5,951,586; 5,893,840; 5,891,108; 5,851,231; 5,843,172; 5,837,008; 5,769,883; 5,735,811; 5,700,286; 5,679,400; 5,649,977; 5,637,113; 5,591,227; 5,551,954; 5,545,208; 5,500,013; 5,464,450; 5,419,760; 5,411,550; 5,342,348; 5,286,254; and 5,163,952. Biodegradable materials are described in U.S. Patent Nos. 6,051,276; 5,879,808; 5,876,452; 5,656,297; 5,543,158; 5,484,584; 5,176,907; 4,894,231; 4,897,268; 4,883,666; 4,832,686; and 3,976,071. The use of hydrocylosiloxane as a rate limiting barrier is described in U.S. Patent No. 5,463,010. Methods for coating of stents is described in U.S. Patent No. 5,356,433. Coatings to enhance biocompatibility of implantable devices are described in U.S. Patent Nos. 5,463,010; 5,112,457; and 5,067,491. Energy based devices are described in U.S. Patent Nos. 6,031,375; 5,928,145; 5,735,811; 5,728,062; 5,725,494; 5,409,000; 5,368,557; 5,000,185; and 4,936,281. Magnetic processes, some of which have been used in drug delivery systems, are described in U.S. Patent Nos. 5,427,767; 5,225,282; 25   5,206,159; 5,069,216; 4,904,479; 4,871,716; 4,501,726; 4,357,259; 4,345,588; and 4,335,094.

The disclosure of this application is related to the disclosures of the following applications being filed on the same day: 09/ 782, 927 (Attorney Docket No. 20460-000920); 09/ 783, 254 (Attorney Docket No. 20460-000930); and 30   09/ 782, 804 (Attorney Docket No. 20460-000940).

The full disclosures of each of the above references are incorporated herein by reference.

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